

Burlington Police Department

Media Information Sheet

DATE/ TIME: May 28, 2014

INCIDENT: Asset Forfeiture Funds and Check Presentation

LOCATION: Burlington Police Department

CONTACT: Assistant Chief Verdeck

PHONE#: 336-229-3542

What: Presentation of funds to the Burlington Police Department from the US

Department of Justice as a result of 2011 asset forfeiture

When: Friday, May 30th, 2014 at 11:00am

Where: Burlington Police Department Lobby, 267 West Front Street, Burlington

Contact: Assistant Chief Verdeck at 229-3542 or cverdeck@ci.burlington.nc.us for additional information about the Check Presentation Event.

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Background:

On August 26, 2011, law enforcement officials received information that a drug trafficker was staying at a hotel in Burlington, North Carolina. Law enforcement personnel established physical surveillance at the Ramada Inn, Burlington, NC.

Officers maintained twenty four (24) hour physical surveillance of the individual through August 30, 2011. On August 29, 2011, officers observed the individual travel to U-Store-It, 382 W. Harden Street Unit L12, Burlington, NC. During the surveillance, officers observed this individual meet several unidentified Hispanic males. The individual then transported a mini-van to storage unit L12.

At the storage unit, officers observed the individual unload packages, later found to contain U.S. Currency, from the mini-van and load it with packages suspected to be narcotics. A traffic stop of the mini-van resulted in the seizure of 42 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride. Officers continued to conduct surveillance at the Harden St. location.

Officers then requested and were granted a search warrant for 382 W. Harden Street Unit L12, Burlington, NC. During the search of the storage unit, officers seized \$1,698,040.00 U.S. Currency wrapped in clear and green plastic and 58 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride.

The Burlington Police Department will be receiving \$220,745.00 of the \$1,698,040.00 that was seized during this investigation. These funds will be used for the purchase of safety equipment issued to patrol officers for use in the normal course of their duties and while investigating additional narcotic cases. Other equipment will be purchased as needed to further assist officers in their narcotic and related investigations.

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